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## **Sen. Toy calls for halt to Detroit Water and Sewerage rate hike**

**Lansing** – State Sen. Laura Toy (R-Livonia) is calling for a temporary freeze on water and sewer rate increases until all questions regarding the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's rate setting process are answered.

"Before the new rate increase is imposed, it is critical for customers to know exactly how these rate increases are computed and just what they are paying for," Toy said. "I fear the issuance of yet another unexplained rate increase will only deepen the public's distrust of the process and the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department."

Toy is joining Oakland County Drain Commissioner John P. McCulloch in calling on the Southeast Michigan Consortium for Water Quality to conduct an independent audit on the rate-setting practices of DSWD and to impose a moratorium on rate increases until the audit is completed. Toy first called for an independent audit in November and repeated her request last week. To date, the Consortium has failed to take action. She also is requesting a *Best Business Practice and Efficiency Study* of DSWD.

On Jan. 28, the Detroit Water Board is scheduled to meet on the recommended rate increase. The Detroit City Council will meet Feb. 5 to adopt it. Rates are slated to increase an average 7 percent according to an article in the Jan. 25 *Detroit News*.

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